

ACTION OF HOUSE IS TO BRING ABOUT DISTRICT TAX QUIZ

Underwood Amendment to Ap-
propriation Bill Providing for
Commission Is Adopted.

SMITH SAYS SENATE
WILL AGREE TO PLAN

Maryland Senator Thinks the "Half-
and-Half" Fight Is Ended
for the Present.

CONFEREES MAY BE NAMED

Investigating Body Is to Have
\$5,000 for Expenses and Is
to Report by January
1, 1916.

The House of Representatives
yesterday refused to abrogate the
half-and-half principle of appro-
priations for the District of Co-
lumbia without a thorough inves-
tigation; and by a vote of 165 to
151 adopted the Underwood
amendment to the District approp-
riation bill providing for a joint
commission of Congress to make
such an inquiry and report to the
next Congress.

The adoption of this amend-
ment killed the Johnson amend-
ment, by which the District would
have paid out all its revenues for
its support next year, while the
federal government would have
paid out only enough to complete
the amount of the present rather
meager appropriation bill.

The fight on this vital principle
is over, it is agreed on all sides at
the Capitol, for the Senate is ex-
pected to adopt the House idea as
set forth in the Underwood
amendment, thus breaking the
deadlock which has existed on the
conference report on the District
appropriation bill.

Possible Personnel.

Although the members of the com-
mission have not been appointed and
will not be until the Senate takes
formal action agreeing to the House
amendment, it has been suggested at
the Capitol that the members of the
commission will be chosen from the
proper personnel. These are Sen-
ators Smith of Maryland, Lea of Ten-
nessee, and the present chairman of the
House, Mr. Underwood, of Hamp-
shire, and Representative Page of
North Carolina, Sisson of Mississippi
and Davis of Minnesota, members of the
House. In discussing the commission
among themselves, agreed that the
strongest move to make would be the
appointment of a commission of five
members, whose minds are open, and
in this way produce a report in
which the next Congress will have con-
fidence.

The Underwood amendment, which
takes the place of the Johnson amend-
ment, provides:

"That a joint select committee shall
be appointed consisting of three sen-
ators and three representatives, to be
chosen by the Senate and the House,
to investigate the financial condition
of the District of Columbia, and to
report thereon to the next Congress.
The committee shall have power to
hold hearings, to take testimony, and
to report by the first day of January,
1916." The Senate failed to receive the
conference report on the District bill
amended by the Underwood plan for
an investigation, it time to act upon it
last night. The House, on the other
hand, in charge of the District bill in
the Senate, was ready to move that the
Senate agree to the Underwood amend-
ment, so that the bill could be finally
disposed of and sent to the President
for his approval. The measure, as
passed by the House, with the report in
hand, would be taken up at a special
session at 6 o'clock, and while
senators were waiting to be called
to the floor, Senator Stone moved
an executive session, his motion was
adopted, and all chance of acting on
the District bill until tomorrow
was shut off.

He said he expected the Senate to
agree without opposition to the plan
for an investigation.

Similar to Senate Plan.

The Underwood plan is similar to that
proposed in an amendment offered to
the bill by Senator Gallinger of New
Hampshire while the bill was before
the Senate and which would have pre-
valled by an overwhelming vote had
not a point of order been made against
it. Senator Sterling of South Dakota,
after the passage of the District bill
by the Senate, offered the Gallinger
amendment as a joint resolution; the
Senate District committee later re-
ported it favorably to the Senate and
it is now on the calendar.
Debate on the amendment in the
House was not held until after the
afternoon session, when it was taken
up after Speaker Clark had upheld the
Underwood motion as proper under
the rules. Subsequently the House
passed the Underwood amendment, re-
sulting in the defeat of the Johnson
amendment.

ALLIES CLAIM RIGHT TO HALT COMMERCE WITH THE GERMANS

Advise Neutral Countries Ac-
tion Is Necessary Because
of Submarine Attacks.

CREWS' AND PASSENGERS'
LIVES TO BE RESPECTED

British-French Declaration Not a
Reply to Representations
of United States.

BERLIN NOTE NOT YET READY

British Press Bitter Against Ac-
cording to American Suggestions.
French Declare English
Cannot Accept.

DACIA IS ARRESTED
BY FRENCH CRUISER

PARIS, via London, February
28.—A French cruiser has ar-
rested the German steamer
Dacia in the channel and taken
her to Brest. This announce-
ment is officially made.
The steamship Dacia left Gal-
veston for Rotterdam January
31, with 11,000 bales of cotton, to
be transhipped to Bremen.
It was fully expected at that time
that the ship would be seized on
her way to Rotterdam, as Great
Britain questioned the validity
of the recent transfer of the
ship from German to American
registry.

LONDON, February 27.—Great Brit-
ain, France and their allies have
advised neutral countries that they
hold themselves at liberty to stop all ship-
ping to and from Germany and the
countries of her allies.

The declaration of this action
will be made early next week, prob-
ably Monday. The text of the declara-
tion will set forth that this decision
is necessary because of German sub-
marine attacks, but that Great Britain
and France will respect the lives of
crews and passengers in any steps they
may take.

Not a Reply to U. S.

The declaration is not a reply to the
American representations looking to a
cessation of German submarine activity
and the admission of food to Germany
for civilians. The declaration will not
affect cargoes shipped before the date
of this advice to neutrals. The exact
date carried by the declaration has not
been announced, but it is probably Feb-
ruary 26 or 27.
No special articles of commerce will
be mentioned in the declaration. For
example, will not be specified, but the
terms will be general. The declaration
will be made in the English, French,
German and Italian languages, be-
cause of Germany's unprecedented action in
attempting to blockade the English
channel, and the danger to the crews and
passengers of ships.

Shipping in Baltic.

Shipping in the Baltic will not be af-
fected except as Great Britain and her
allies prevent supplies from entering
Norway, Sweden and Denmark for re-
exportation to Germany. Holland, re-
garding its prohibited export list con-
form with the British contraband list
and by the creation of the Netherlands
interseas will be under the same
regulations. The declaration will guar-
antee that the government guarantee that
they will not be shipped in a position
which will be affecting little by the declaration.

Scandinavians May Act.

It is believed here that the Scandi-
navian countries will be under the same
regulations to insure continuation of
supplies from America and elsewhere for
home use.
While Denmark, Sweden and Norway
have repeatedly promised the lists of
prohibited exports, their regulations
for the prevention of re-exportation
apparently have been unsatisfactory,
as cargoes have not moved to the
freedom of the Baltic.

German Reply Not Ready.

Germany's reply to the note concern-
ing the problems which have grown out
of the establishment of the naval war
zone around the British Isles by the
German government is not yet ready
for delivery to Ambassador Gerard, dis-
patches from Berlin say. It had been
hoped that the reply would be trans-
mitted to the ambassador today, but it
was found that additional time was re-
quired for completing the final draft. The note, however, will
soon be ready.

Offer Deemed Impossible.

The London Times, in an editorial to-
day, describes the proposition assumed
to be contained in the note from the
United States, as based on a state-
ment from Germany that if Great Brit-
ain would refrain from seizing food-
stuffs consigned to Germany the latter
country would cease her submarine
warfare on merchantmen, as an offer
which it is impossible for Great Britain
to accept because it would be an ad-
mission that she had lost the command
of her home waters and that her navy
was helpless before the German subma-
rines.

Germany Would Exult.

"Were we so lost to all sense of na-
tional dignity" says the Times "the
Germans would justly exult at such
conclusive proof that we feared them.
The British nation and government
have the strongest respect for Ameri-
can interests and American feeling.
They have done much to satisfy both
and whenever military considerations
permit will gladly do more, but they
will not submit to German blackmail
and they believe in this Americans
will feel they do well."
The Morning Post, in an editorial
similar in tenor to that of the Times,
declines to believe that the Washing-
ton (Continued on Second Page.)

ROUTED GERMANS FLEE IN DISORDER, SAVS PETROGRAD

Cossacks Harass Retreating
Teutons in Flight From
North Poland.

PRZASNYSZ RECAPTURED
BY GRAND DUKE'S ARMY

Stanislaw and Kolomea Retaken
From Austrians by Muscovites
After Desperate Battling.

PLAN TO CRUSH WINGS FAILS

Czar's General Staff Declares Berlin
Strategy Has Miscarried and War-
saw Is Safe, Invaders Being
Pushed Back.

PETROGRAD, February 28.—
The Germans in northern Poland
are in disorderly retreat. Rus-
sian reinforcements have driven the
foe back all along the line and
the Germans have met with a
defeat that is about the heaviest
they have encountered in the
eastern campaign. Cossacks are
pursuing and harassing the flee-
ing Germans, inflicting heavy
losses and capturing many men
and guns.

The guns of the fortress at
Ossowetz are successfully repel-
ling the eleven and twelve inch
mortars of the Germans, and
Przasnysz has been recaptured
from the enemy, who occupied it
several days ago. The routed foe
is in disorderly retreat there.

Stanislaw and Kolomea have
been retaken from the Austrians,
who have left many munitions of
war and many prisoners in the
hands of the Russian army in
Galicia. The attempt of the Ger-
mans and Austrians to crush the
two ends of the Russian line has
ended in their defeat, and the
armies defending Warsaw are
compelling further retirement of
the Germans in the center.

Successes of Allies.

LONDON, February 27, 10:30 p.m.—
With Russian successes in the region
of Przasnysz, North Poland, and Ko-
lomea, East Galicia, the successful
progress of the operations of the allied
fleet in the Dardanelles and the decision
of the allied governments to stop all ship-
ping to and from Germany, Austria
and Turkey, it is believed here that a
new phase of the war is about to be entered
into.

Battles Continue Unabated.

Much more fighting, however, must
be waged before a final decision is
reached, and in the meantime, the bat-
tle has been resumed in Central Po-
land, where the Russians have made a
slight advance, and the engagements
in the Carpathians, east of Krakow,
and Bukovina continue with unabated
fury.

From what can be gathered from the
official reports, the Russians, despite
the onslaughts made upon them from
all sides by Austrians and Germans,
have been able to maintain their
positions, and to throw in new
troops where they were neces-
sary. As a result, the Austro-German
armies have been forced to retreat
from their center by attacking the two ex-
treme wings has failed, and while the
Russians have been forced from East
Prussia and Bukovina, they have been
able to make a stand, and when re-
inforced delivered counter attacks,
which apparently are making some
headway.

Austrians Are Checked.

The Austrian advance in Eastern Ga-
licia has been checked and the Rus-
sians, driving back their opponents,
have recaptured Stanislaw and Kolo-
mea from Hertz, Roumania. Heavy
fighting preceded the recapture of
these two towns.
The Russians occupied Stanislaw yester-
day. Advancing in force from that
point they attacked the Austrian posi-
tion at Kolomea. The Austrians at-
tempted to recapture the town, but
were repulsed. The Russians, it is
reported, have been sent in the direc-
tion of Stanislaw. Carranza authori-
ties are rushing word on fortifications
at Tampico.

From Vera Cruz it was reported that
Felicitas Villareal is still imprisoned.
John W. Belt, private secretary to Con-
sul Silliman, concerning whom in-
quiries have been made, has arrived safely
at Vera Cruz from Mexico City.

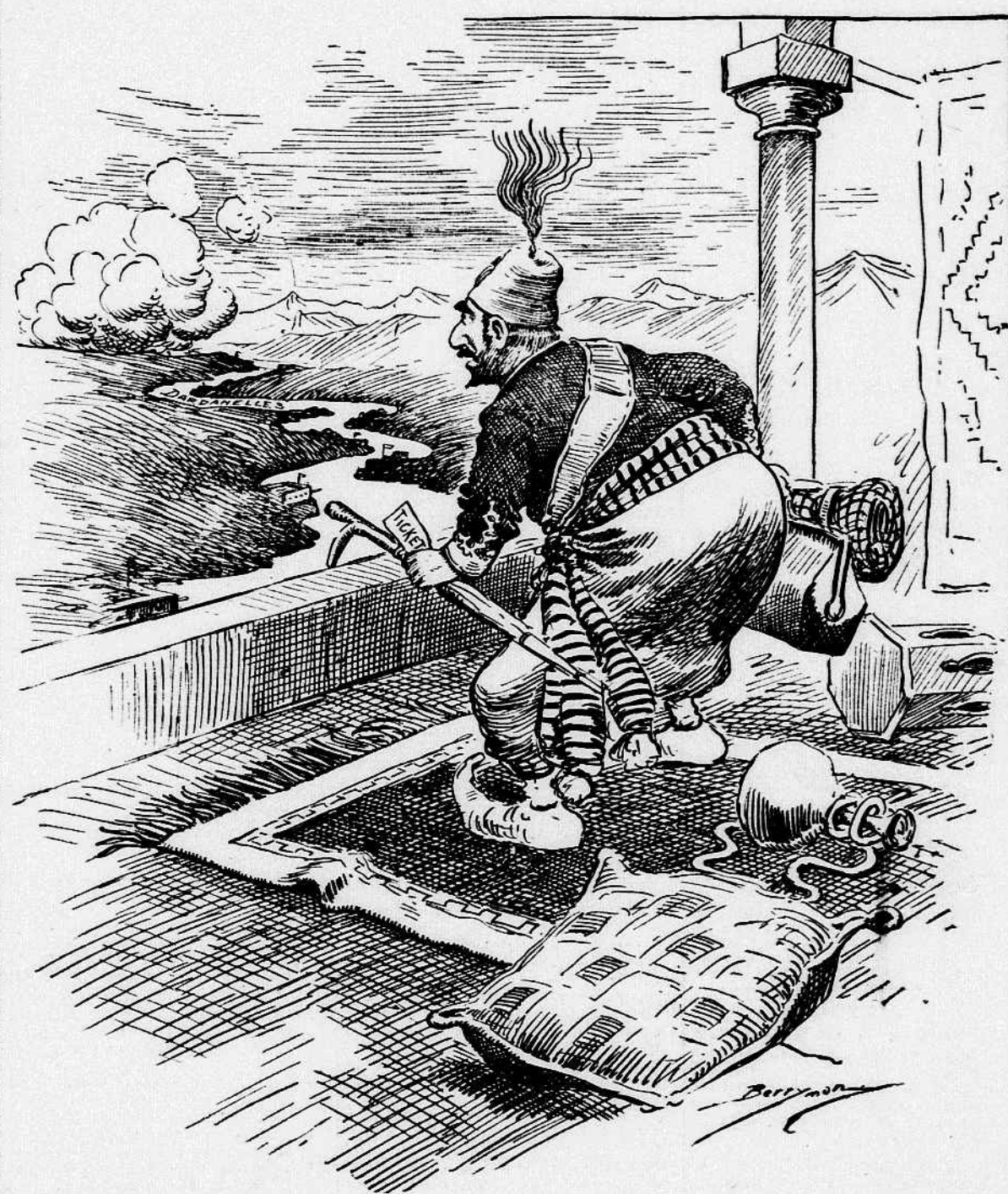
BRINGS GERMAN CARGO.

American Steamer Arrives in New
York From Bremen.

NEW YORK, February 27.—The
American steamer City of Memphis
reached New York today from Bremen
with a cargo of 900 tons of assorted
German merchandise.
The steamer sailed on the outward
voyage from Norfolk with a cargo of
nearly 9,000 bales of cotton, and
reached Bremen January 27 without
incident throughout the voyage. On
the return voyage the steamer was de-
layed by gales and heavy seas.

Botha Campaigns in Africa.

Gen. Louis Botha's army continues to
(Continued on Ninth Page.)



News Note: The Sultan of Turkey is about to start on an indefinite visit to Asia.

MONTEREY BATTLE IS TO BEGIN TODAY

Carranza Forces Said to Num-
ber 25,000 Against Villa
Army of 20,000.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., February 27.—
Gen. Pablo Gonzalez, commanding the
Carranza forces, said to number about
25,000 men, has notified Gen. Felipe
Angeles, Villa's commander at Mon-
terey, that the city will be attacked
Sunday at noon and asking that non-
combatants be notified that they may
leave the city, according to a message
from Nuevo Laredo.
Gen. Angeles is said to have replied
that he would be ready to receive the
Carranza army. Villa reports say An-
geles has about 20,000 men, while Car-
ranza sources indicate that his force
numbers between 10,000 and 12,000
men.

Carranza Loses Yucatan.

EL PASO, Tex., February 27.—A suc-
cessful uprising against the Carranza
faction controlling Yucatan, a rich
state located in the southernmost por-
tion of the republic, was reported to-
day in official Villa advices received
here. It was not made known whether
the revolutionists have avowed alliance
with the Villa faction.

The capital, Merida, fell into the
hands of the revolutionists after a
brief battle three days ago, it was
said. The Carranza officials fled to
Central America and Havana, Cuba,
with the exception of Gov. Santos, who
was captured. The new party named
Ygnacio Magallon governor of the
state.

Carranza attempted to send troops to
quell the uprising on boats confiscated
from the Mexico Navigation Company,
an American concern, it is said.
Rumors at Merida later told of a simi-
lar uprising at Progreso, the seaport
whence the troops were to have been
transported.

U. S. Demands Schooner's Release.

Gen. Venustiano Carranza's release
has been called upon by the State Depart-
ment to release the American schooner Mar-
tha, held by his agents at Frontera,
Mexico, on the ground that her master
was endeavoring to evade export du-
ties on a cargo of cotton to Galveston,
which duty and fines would amount to
more than \$11,000 in Mexican currency.

"For the sake of humanity," Col.
Frederico Cervantes, a Zapata leader,
has agreed to permit the water supply
for Mexico City to be resumed, accord-
ing to advices last evening to the State
Department. The principal source has
been cut off for some time by Carranza
forces, who occupy the suburbs of the
capital. Preparations are reported un-
der way for a battle at Monterey,
which is occupied by Gen. Felipe An-
geles, in command of Villa forces. It is
reported that Carranza forces at
Pampico have been sent in the direc-
tion of Monterey. Carranza authori-
ties are rushing word on fortifications
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at Vera Cruz from Mexico City.

DU PONT SELLS OUT.

President of Powder Company Re-
ceives \$20,000,000 for Holdings.

WILMINGTON, Del., February 27.—
It was learned here tonight that Gen.
T. Coleman du Pont, president of the
Du Pont Powder Company, has sold
his holdings in the company to a syndi-
cate headed by Perre S. du Pont, who
has been acting president for the con-
cern during the greater part of the
last seven years. The price paid is said
to have been about \$20,000,000.
Gen. du Pont retires from the com-
pany because of ill health, he having
recently undergone a serious operation
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619,000 SEE EXPOSITION.

First Week's Attendance at San
Francisco Fair Is Announced.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 27.—The
attendance at the Panama-Pacific in-
ternational exposition for its first week
was officially announced today as 619-
000, a daily average of 88,428. Accord-
ing to the official statement, the at-
tendance at the Chicago exposition for
the same period was 257,036 and at St.
Louis 325,144.

STEGLER SAYS BOY-ED
CALLED HIM TRAITOR

Stands Ready to Plead Guilty if In-
dicted on Charge of
Conspiracy.

NEW YORK, February 27.—Charles
H. Griffiths, attorney for Richard P.
Stegler, the German naval reservist
now in the Tombs on the charge of
fraudulently obtaining an American
passport, indicated today that if his
client would be indicted for conspiracy
he would instruct him to plead guilty
and throw himself on the mercy of
the court.

"Stegler has confessed that he con-
spired to obtain the passport," said
Mr. Griffiths, "and to plead guilty is the
logical thing for him to do."

Stands Ready to Testify.

The federal grand jury is expected
to take action in the case Monday.
Stegler stands ready, his attorney
added, to take the stand as a govern-
ment witness and any further action the
federal authorities might take against
him would be undertaken by the gov-
ernment.

"All information in this case in my
possession or which I may be able to
obtain," said Mr. Griffiths, "will be
turned over to the government for
such disposition as they desire to make
of it. And all statements made by
Stegler will be made under oath by
him in any proceedings which the gov-
ernment may desire to institute, if
any proceedings could be started
against any one of the persons whom
Stegler implicated. Stegler would de-
sire to become a witness for the gov-
ernment."

Says He Was Called Traitor.

That Capt. Boy-Ed, naval attache of
the German embassy, had called Stegler
a traitor to Germany because he had
refused to go to England as a spy was
the statement which Mr. Griffiths said
Stegler made to him today in the
Tombs. Stegler declared, according to
his attorney, that when he insisted to
the naval attache that if he was to
undertake the mission he must have
a written guarantee that his wife
would be financially provided for, Cap-
tain Boy-Ed had said "You are a
traitor to your country."

"I told him," Stegler was quoted as
saying, "that I had taken out my first
papers as an American citizen."

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the return voyage the steamer was de-
layed by gales and heavy seas.

TIDAL BASIN BATH GETS DEATH BLOW

Fight Won in Congress, But
Health Officials Veto
the Project.

Senator Norris of Nebraska, who has
made a vigorous fight for more than a
year to have Congress appropriate
money to fix up the tidal basin as a
bathing beach for the people of the
District, won his fight during the con-
ference on the sundry civil appropria-
tion bill, and then lost it, it was learned
last night.

An amendment offered by him to the
sundry civil bill, providing \$50,000 for
beginning the work of transforming
the basin into a bathing beach, was
agreed to in the Senate, and the Sen-
ate House conferees also agreed to the
item.

Basin Declared Insanitary.

The District health authorities then
stepped in. Careful examination of the
water in the basin, they reported to the
conference and to Senator Norris, de-
veloped the fact that the water there was
polluted and dangerous for bathing
purposes. That put an end for the time
being to the project.

Senator Norris said last night that he
still had hopes that the basin could be
made into a healthful bathing beach for
the residents of Washington.

"I am convinced," he said, "that it
would be better to go ahead with the
project under present conditions, but
these conditions may be changed in the
future. The health authorities explain-
ed to me that much sewage goes into
the Potomac river between Georgetown
and the tidal basin, and that consid-
erable sewage is to be found in the
Washington channel."

Two Inlets to Basin.

"The tidal basin has two inlets, one
from the Potomac river and the other
from the Washington channel. The
sewage-polluted water comes into the
basin with the tide through both in-
lets. The consequence is, the health
authorities say, the water in the basin
is very insanitary."

"I am told, however, that plans are
under way to have the sewage, or a
great part of it, that goes into the Po-
tomac, diverted into the Potomac river
by other means. The inlet from the
Washington channel into the tidal
basin is very small and could easily be
filled up. So I do not see why in the
future it will not be possible to carry
out the plan for turning the tidal ba-
sin into a bathing place with perfect
safety."

SNOW BURIES HAMLET.

People of La Caille May Die Before
They Are Dug Out.

PARIS, February 27.—A snow
avalanche, near Radou in the depart-
ment of Hautes-Alpes, has completely
buried the hamlet of La Caille.
The houses are obliterated, and it is
believed that some of the people must
perish before they can be dug out.

Sarah Bernhardt Improving.

PARIS, February 27.—Mme. Sarah
Bernhardt is making normal progress
toward recovery, according to a dis-
patch received here today from Bor-
deaux. The famous French actress has
been at a Bordeaux hospital for nearly
a week, getting over the effects of the
amputation of a leg.

Peoria Fire Loss of \$300,000.

PEORIA, Ill., February 27.—Fire in the
heart of the business district late to-
day destroyed several buildings, caus-
ing a loss estimated at \$300,000. Fear is
felt for the safety of \$1,500,000 in ac-
curities locked in vaults in one of the
burned structures.

Agamemnon Is Hit.

The admiralty announced tonight that
during the bombardment of the Dar-
danelles fortifications the battleship
Agamemnon had been struck and that
three men were killed. The announce-
ment says further that the Dardanelles
operations are still proceeding.
The Turkish army headquarters in
Constantinople announced yesterday
that one ship of the Agamemnon type
and two other armored vessels were
damaged by the fire from the forts on
the Asiatic side of the Dardanelles.
The Agamemnon, a vessel of 16,500
tons displacement, was laid down in
1902. Her complement is 885 men. She
is 435 feet long and has a main bat-
tery of four twelve-inch guns.
The admiralty announcement says
that landing parties went ashore from
the allied fleet. With the assistance
of three of the four forts at the en-
trance to the Dardanelles were completely
demolished, and the fourth was damaged
badly.

ALLIES' SHIPS SMASH TWO TURKISH FORTS INSIDE DARDANELLES

Four Outer Defenses Silenced by the
Fleets' Projectiles and Landing Par-
ties Finish Demolishing Them.

FORTY VESSELS DASHUP STRAITS; ORKHANIEH AND IN TEPEH FALL

Fifteen-Inch Guns of British Superdreadnaught, First Ever
Used, Do Great Damage—Constantinople in Panic.
Sultan Prepares to Flee.

FORTY SHIPS ADVANCE UP STRAITS.

PARIS, February 27.—The Havas Agency Athens cor-
respondent wires:

"Forty vessels of the British-French fleet advanced to-
day as far as Fort Orkhanieh, smashed the defenses and
swept the Turkish encampments. They then bombarded In
Tepeh, which they destroyed.

"Submarines, protected by French vessels and aero-
planes, constantly moved about. Torpedo dragging was ef-
fected methodically."

LONDON, February 28, 3:30 a.m.—Twenty warships of the
allied fleet entered the Dardanelles at dawn Saturday and bombarded
the inner forts, according to a dispatch from the Athens correspond-
ent of the Exchange Telegraph Company. The message adds that a
battleship bombarded a Turkish camp on the Gulf of Saros.

"There is a panic in Constantinople and many inhabitants are
leaving," says the Athens correspondent of the Weekly Dispatch.
"Internal trouble is imminent. The cabinet has decided to transfer
the seat of government to Broussa, Asia Minor."

GREATEST FLEET IN ACTION.

LONDON, February 27, 10:15 p.m.—After having completed
the destruction of forts at the entrance of the Dardanelles the allied
fleet of British and French warships, the greatest which has ever
been in action, is now attacking the inner forts which heretofore
have stood between Turkey and invasion by the sea.

Apparently the outer forts could not withstand a great bom-
bardment, and when they had been leveled, and deserted by their
defenders, men were landed from the ships to complete the work
of demolition, while mine sweepers cleared a passage for ships in
the straits.

More serious work is now ahead, for the all-important forti-
fications are at Kilid Bahr and Chanak, which guard the narrowest
part of the straits, which the fleet is now approaching. There is no
doubt, however, that the allied commanders have instructions to
make their way to Constantinople in spite of all obstacles, and have
been supplied with the best means for carrying out these orders.

Ships Engaged in Battle.

A complete list of the ships engaged
is not available, but reports from